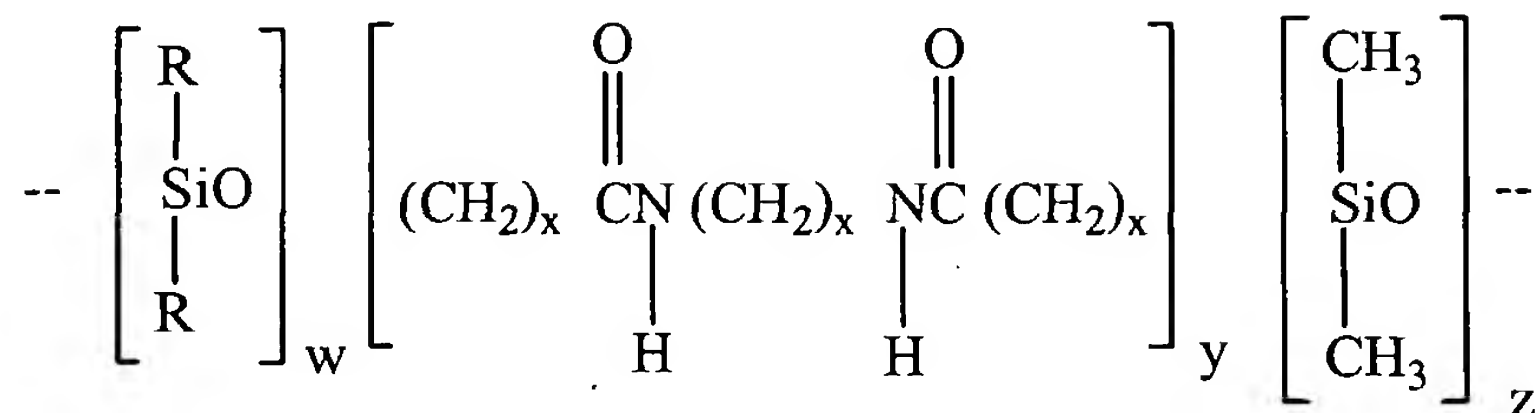


CLAIMS:

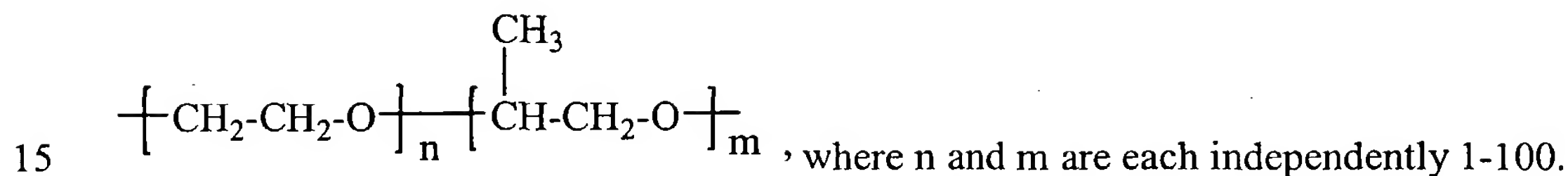
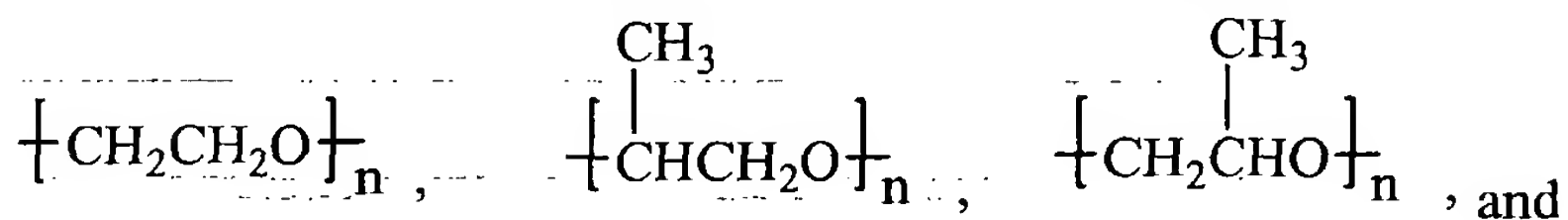
1. A copolymer comprising the chemical formula :

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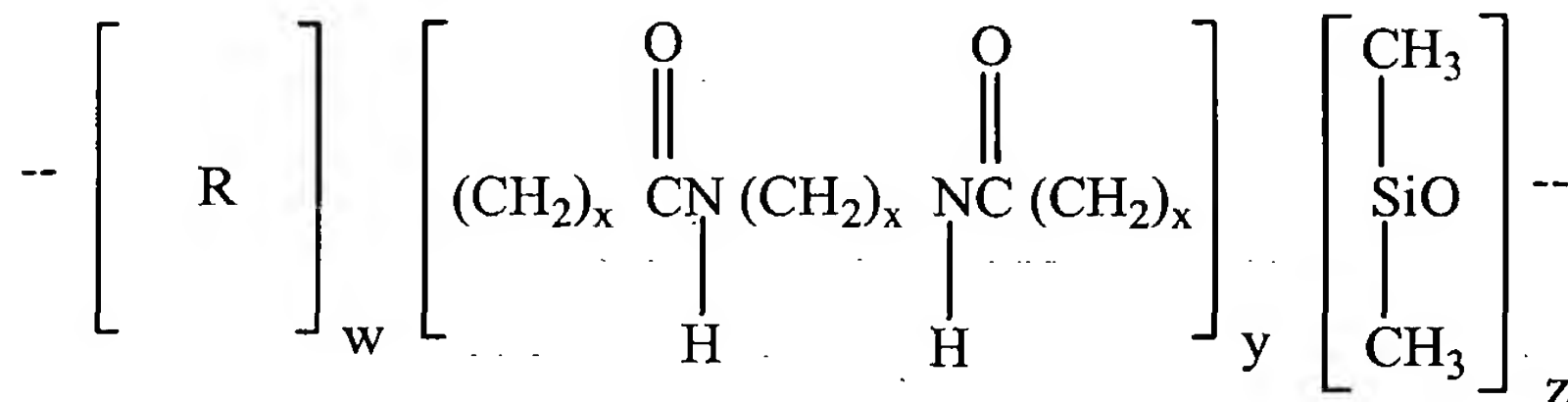


where at least one R is an oxyalkylene group and the remaining R, if present, is H or a C1-C12 alkyl group, x, which may be the same or different, is 1-40, z is 0-1000, and w and y are, independently, 1-1000.

2. The copolymer according to Claim 1, wherein the oxyalkylene group is selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene groups of the formulae

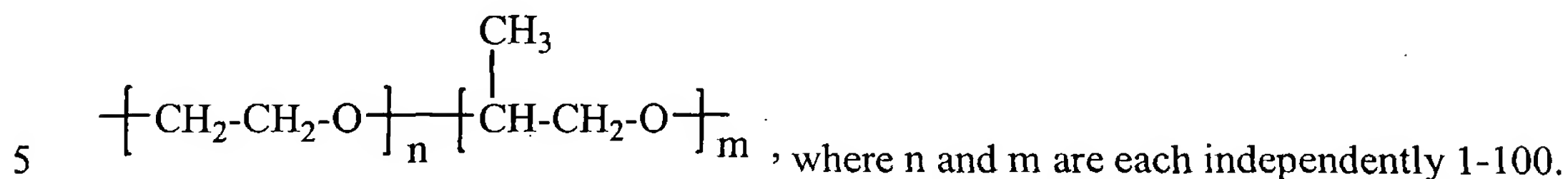
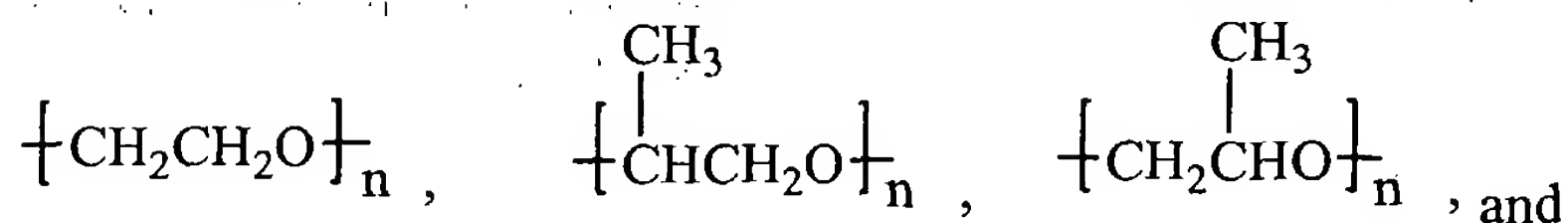


3. A copolymer comprising the chemical formula:

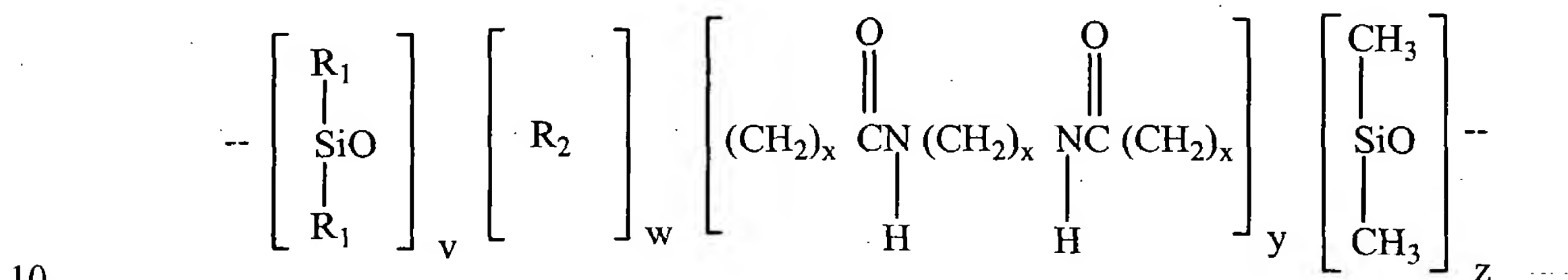


20 where R is an oxyalkylene group, x is 1-40, and each of w, y and z is 1-200.

4. The copolymer according to Claim 3, wherein the oxyalkylene group is selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene groups of the formulae

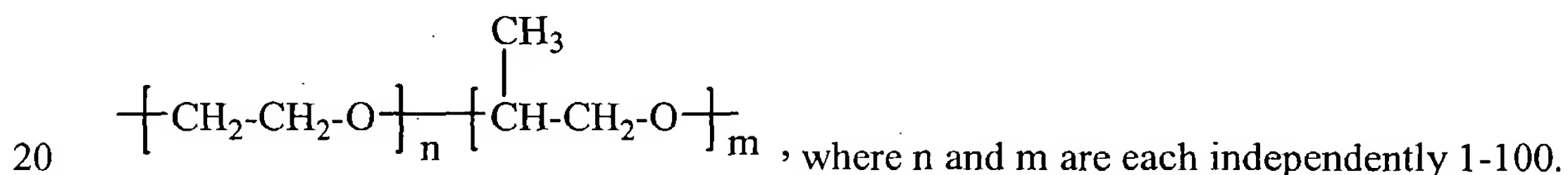
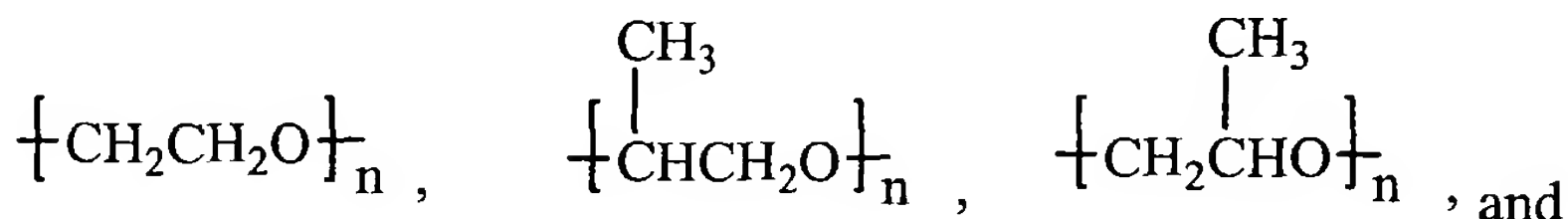


5. A copolymer comprising the chemical formula:



15 where at least one R_1 , and R_2 , which may be the same or different, is an oxyalkylene group, any R_1 that is not oxyalkylene is H or a C1-C12 alkyl group, x, which may be the same or different, is 1-40. z is 0-200, y is 1-200, w is 0-200, v is 0-200, provided that v and w cannot both be 0 at the same time.

6. The copolymer according to Claim 5, wherein the oxyalkylene group is selected from the group consisting of polyoxyalkylene groups of the formulae



7. A composition comprising the copolymer of Claim 1.

8. The composition of claim 7, wherein said composition further comprises a physiologically acceptable medium.

9. The composition of claim 7, further comprising water.

10. A composition comprising the copolymer of Claim 3.

11. The composition of claim 10, wherein said composition further comprises a physiologically acceptable medium.

12. The composition of claim 10, further comprising water.

13. A composition comprising the copolymer of Claim 5.

14. The composition of claim 13, wherein said composition further comprises a physiologically acceptable medium.

15. The composition of claim 13, further comprising water.

16. The composition of claim 7, wherein said composition is in the form of an emulsion.

17. The composition of claim 9, wherein said composition is in the form of an emulsion.

18. The composition of claim 10, wherein said composition is in the form of an emulsion.

19. The composition of claim 12, wherein said composition is in the form of an emulsion.

20. The composition of claim 13, wherein said composition is in the form of an emulsion.

21. The composition of claim 15, wherein said composition is in the form of an emulsion.

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